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Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Written statement* submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[17 August 2015]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

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Human Rights Defenders in Bahrain are targeted

HRD Nabeel Rajab. The President of Bahrain Human Rights Center, a member in Advisory Board of MENA of Human Rights Watch (HRW), Deputy Secretary-General in International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), director of Gulf Centre for Human Rights (BCHR)and one of the founder members of Bahrain Human Rights Society(BHRS).

- Nabeel Rajab was arrested on April 2, 2015. Bahrain News Agency reported in its website at the same day:"Nabeel Rajab was arrested after publishing information that would harm the civil peace and insulting a statutory organizationto violation of the law.
- Note that he is facing a prison sentence for six months for another tweet posted on Twitter and supposed to be sentenced in May 4, 2015
- April 1, 2012,the Bahraini authorities interrogated Nabeel for several hours about his participation in anti-government protests and calling to join the protests.
- April 26, 2012 Bahraini authorities interrogated Mr. Rajab again about "insulting the statutory organizations."
- Saturday, May 5, 2012 evening Bahraini authorities arrested Nabeel Rajab at the airport when he was returning from Beirut.
- May 6, 2012,Nabeelwas standing before the court regarding one of his charges and they extended his suspension to a week.
- He was released on May 28, 2012 on bail.
- June 6, 2012, the Bahraini authorities arrested Nabeel Rajab again and sentenced him for 3 years and in the appeal his sentence was reduced to two years.
- Nabil Rajab was released by Royal Amnesty recently, but still banned of travel and charges on other cases has not been dropped yet, thus exposed to blackmail

HRD HussainParweez

HRD Hussein Parweez Chairman of European - Bahraini Organization for Human Rights (EBOHR) was arrested on February 16, 2015 and abused, transferred to public prosecution on February 18, 2015 without his lawyer's knowledge and the prosecutor ordered to releasing him but did not happen.

His charges are as the following: illegal gathering, possessing Molotov cocktails and riots.

- He was prosecuted again on February 21, 2015 on charges of collecting funds in Bahrain and abroad to supporting subversive groups.
- Hussain Perweez claimed being tortured physically and psychologically, abused, threatened of harming his wife, not allowed to sleep, standing for long hours, deprivation of bathand stripped naked and sexual harassment.
- On 11th March His wife Asma Darwish was summoned to testify about allegations of torture complaints.
- On April 7, 2015 court session to hear defense witnesses has been postponed to April 22, 2015 with continued detention.
- He was released on bail, but the charges against him
- Hussein Perweez was previously arrested on November 23, 2013 and released on bail in January 9, 2014 with continuation of his trial on charges of inciting hatred against the state, insulting the king, criticizing government institutions, attempted to obstruction public security and illegal gathering.

HRD Nader Ibrahim Abdulemam

- 6th April 2015,Abdulemam, Chairman of Insaf Association was summoned and interrogated at Al-Hoora police station and charged with inciting hatred against the state but he denied the charges and released to refer to the Public Prosecution.
- 5thMarch 2015 he received a call from the Ministry of Education dismissing him from his job as a teacher.
- The Ministry of Education has confirmed to refer the subject for CSC after the recommended dismissal for violating the conduct of his profession.
- Nader said that they told him the dismissal decision was because of a tweet causing him a sentence for four months, pointing out that the decision came after serving for 14 years in the Ministry.

HRDNajiFateel

- Since his arrest on 2nd February 2015 up to day, the head of Bahrain Youth Society for Human Rights (BYHES), Naji's family is deprived of family visitation. And on 10th March2015some of the released prisoners confirmed that they saw him with blood on his clothes.
- February 2015,Fateel mentioned in a letter from prison published by the BYHRS, that he is still suffering from chronic pain due to injuries of six multiple fractures in the leg, thus he need a surgery to remove metal in his leg and also suffered of three broken vertebrae in his back but he didn't have appropriate treatment until now.
- It is worth mentioning that on 2ndMay 2013 his house was raided, terrorized his sons and he was beaten in front of his family. He was handcuffed and put in a bus and taken for investigation. Subjected to brutal torture and forcing him to confess, he was hanged from his hands to ceiling, they used electric shocks, kicking, beating and cursing. This torture lasted for a whole week and he was forced to confessions. After 60 days in prison, traces of torture lasted. No investigation on his torture was undertaken. On July 2013 he was transferred to Jaw Central Prison until now and was sentenced to 15 years.

Human rights activist GadhaYusef Jamsheer

- On 9th September 2014 Ghadathe human rights defender and Chairperson of the Women's Petition Committee, was summoned because of tweets that she posted on "Twitter" criticizing corruption of King Hamad Hospital management in Bahrain.
- September 10, 2014, the General Department of Criminal Investigations interrogated Ghadafor four hours based on 11 complaint against her tweets.
- 14thSeptember 2014Jamsheerwas arrested again and released on 15thDecember 2014, added to her a new charge which was assaulting an officer and police.
- 14thMarch 2015 at the airport she was prevented from traveling and also banned from writing in the local press and local media for 9 years.

Human rights activist Mohammed Al-Maskati

- 31st December 2014 the digital security expert at Frontline defenders and the previous President of the Bahrain Youth Society for Human Rights Al-Maskati was sentenced to six months on charges of "rioting and participating in an illegal gathering", released on bail of BHD 100 until the appeal hearing.
- This judgment was related to the rally on 16thOctober 2012 in the Capital Manama.
- The appeal hearing is on September 2015.

Human rights activist Yusef Abdul Rasool

- 10th June 2014 Vice President of Bahrain Youth Society for Human Rights was interrogated for hours about his role in the society.
- He was arrested in 2011 after returning from a training in Egypt about human rights procedures of "United Nations" and investigation was about the program content.

Human rights activist Hussain Radhi

A member of Bahrain Centre for Human Rights (previous member in Bahrain Human Rights Society during his detainment).

- On 25thJanuary 2013Radhiwas arrested in the capital of Bahrain when heattended a rally to monitor a peaceful protests and then the Public Prosecutor ordered to detain for 45 days on charges of illegal gathering. After 17 days of detainment he was released on 12th February 2013 with continuation of his trial and note that a several sessions held in court but the sentencing hearing in the case will be on May 20, 2015.

Human rights activist Maryam Al-Khawaja

On 1st December 2014 the First Major Criminal Court ordered to imprison Maryam al-Khawaja for a year after being convicted of assaulting first lieutenant and police in Bahrain International Airport in August 30, 2014 but Maryam denied the charges and she is not guilty.

Human rights activist Zainab al-Khawaja

First Criminal Minor Court ruled imprison Zainab al-Khawaja in 2 cases for 2month related to damaging Interior Ministry vehicles, and in the third case of insulting a public employee, the court ordered to suspend her for a year.

On 4th December 2014 Lower Criminal Court ordered to jail Zainab Al-khawaja to three years with a fine of three thousand Bahraini dinars, the court estimated BHD100 to stop the execution of the sentence on charge" insulting the King of Bahrain" so the total penalty is four years and four months.

Human Rights Activist Sh. Mayrhem Al-Salman

Sh. Maythem Al-Salman was arrested at Bahrain International Airport, at 7 am on Sat 8Aug. 2015 upon returning from Tunisia, in UN mission, as member MENA NGOs Coalition Against Hatred, and member of UN Sponsored Coordination Committee for the implementation of Rabat Plan of Religious Interfaith and Combating hatred. He was interrogated for five hours on charges of defaming the stated, inciting hatred against sect, and belonging to unlicensed BHRO organization .Mr Alsalman is very well known HRDs for interfaith, combatting hatred and defamation, and striving for citizenship equality,. He is BHRO coordinator for religious rights and international affairs.

He was eventually released, but the charges against him were not dropped